

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method of claim 16 wherein the active material is lithium manganese oxide having a breakdown voltage of about 5 volts and said DMAC characterized by absorbing excess energy at a breakdown voltage less than that of said lithium manganese oxide.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A method for reducing decomposition of an electrolyte solution and for reducing the formation of gaseous constituents in an electrochemical cell, said method comprising including in the electrolyte of said cell a dialkylamide additive, wherein said additive is present in an amount of about up to 10% by weight of the solvent of the electrolyte, whereby said cell having said additive is characterized by a lesser rate of gas formation during cycling of said cell as compared to a similar cell without said additive.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method for reducing decomposition of a lithium salt in an electrochemical cell, said method comprising including in the electrolyte of said cell a dialkylamide additive which neutralizes acid attack of said salt, wherein said additive is present in an amount of about up to 10% by weight of the solvent of the electrolyte.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method for preventing breakdown of a lithium metal oxide cathode active material in an electrochemical cell by overcharge to an electrochemical breakdown voltage, said method comprising, including in the electrolyte of said cell DMAC DMAC(dimethylacetamide) as an additive, which absorbs excess charge energy at a voltage less

than the breakdown voltage of said cathode active material, wherein said DMAC is present in an amount of about up to 10% by weight of the solvent of the electrolyte.